

Bay Pines Lutheran

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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If you'd like to connect with one of our ministers, please don't hesitate to give them a call/text/email at your convenience; they'd consider it a blessing to connect with you. Thanks!

Proclaiming Christ in Pinellas County

The Sixteenth Weekend after Pentecost

September 11 & 12, 2021

In the name of Jesus, our Savior & Lord, welcome!
Whether it's your first time with us or Bay Pines is
your church home, we're glad you're here! If you :



- . . . have questions, please ask – we'll do our best to answer;
- . . . need the restrooms, they're in the hallway just off the north-east corner of our sanctuary (so, if you're facing the altar up front, look back and left);
- . . . can stick around after worship, we'd love to get to know you;
- . . . would like a call from one of our staff, they'd love to connect with you!

If you brought young children today, thank you! Please know :

- . . . we love to hear them sing, pray, and speak along, and this is a great setting to help them respond to church, to God, and to one another;
- . . . their wiggles don't bother us (their wiggles don't bother Jesus, either);
- . . . you can sit up front where little eyes and ears are able to see and hear;
- . . . both the men's and women's restrooms have diaper-changing stations, and there's a cry-room adjacent the restrooms as well;
- . . . we love that each one of you is here, and we'd be blessed to serve you!

To adore the God of Order in a fitting and orderly way (*1 Corinthians 14:33, 40*), our path of worship is printed in this booklet. Today, the Savior's own tenderness moves hearts to cherish every opportunity to **"tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD"** (*Psalms 78:4*), as we consider the worship theme:

Should our (grand)kids Decide?

Portions of today's worship are reprinted & livestreamed with permission from **Christian Worship : A Lutheran Hymnal & Christian Worship Supplement** under OneLicense.net #720148-A.

Opening Song : Baptized into your Name Most Holy (*TEXT BELOW; BLUE HYMNAL, PG. 8*)

Gospel grace brings us the joy of God's promise to us in the Means of his Grace, in Baptism!

The Invocation

Jesus promises that when we gather in his name, he's here to bless and be with us.

Minister : In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

All : **Amen!**



***Baptized into your name most holy,
O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly,
Among your saints, your chosen host,
Buried with Christ and dead to sin.
Your Spirit now shall live within.***

I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit (*John 3:5, 6*).

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us

(Psalm 51:5).

But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God (*1 Corinthians 6:11*).



***My loving Father, there you took me
To be hence-forth your child and heir.
My faithful Savior, there you let me
The fruit of all your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me
When threat'ning clouds around I see.***

The Acknowledgment of our Wrongs

Sin offends God. Always. Aware of our own sin, we ask him for his forgiveness.

As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



***My faithful God you fail me never;
Your promise surely will endure.
Oh, cast me not away forever
If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled;
Forgive, lift up, restore your child.***

*A moment of silence to recognize our own, individual sins
and our own, deep need for forgiveness.*

The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Jesus lived, died, and rose to forgive the world's sins. By his grace, you're set free!

Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless (*Ephesians 5:25-27*). Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!



***All that I am and love most dearly –
Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely,
And help me your own child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own
Serve any will but yours alone.***

The Prayer of the Day

This petition appreciates Jesus' full forgiveness and asks for his guidance and blessing.

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: in the water of baptism you forgave our sin and delivered us from death and the devil; you raised us to live a new life in Christ and clothed us with his merit. LORD, thank you! Help us rejoice in your washing of salvation and to live before you in righteousness and purity forever.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

A Childlike Illustration : He's always "our Father"

This illustration & devotion are geared to help children & child-like smile at God's promises.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

A Reading from the Old Testament : Psalm 78:1-8

In love, God gave a grace-filled opportunity that is both a blessing and a responsibility. That gift? To know his praiseworthy deeds for the self and share them to the next generations.

O my people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. ² I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter hidden things, things from of old – ³ what we have heard and known, what our fathers have told us.

⁴ **We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done.** ⁵ He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, ⁶ **so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children.**

⁷ Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands. ⁸ They would not be like their forefathers – a stubborn and rebellious generation, whose hearts were not loyal to God, whose spirits were not faithful to him.

POINT TO PONDER :

Not only has God done great things for us; he's given us his Word. What implications exist for our:
✓ own lives?
✓ (grand) kids?

A Reading from the Gospels: Mark 10:13-16

Jesus didn't just dump the "inform the next generation" responsibility onto the shoulders of immediate family & friends; instead, in love, he welcomed them & blessed them himself!

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, **"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."** ¹⁵ I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ **And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.**

POINT TO PONDER :

This is counter-cultural – it wasn't the norm! – yet Jesus takes time. In doing so, how does he focus us to know & show his grace?

This is the gospel of our Lord.

A Reading from the New Testament : II Timothy 1:1-9a

Often, Israel failed to do what they well-intended to do regarding God's Word. Often. But not always. From infancy, Timothy knew God's grace as shared by his mom & grandma.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ² To Timothy, my dear son *[in the faith]*:

Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers

POINT TO PONDER :

Lois and Eunice. But we hear nothing about Timothy's dad and grandpa. Still, Timothy knew his Savior. Lessons for us in our day and age?

did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ **I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also.** ⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. ⁷ For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord or of me his prisoner. Rather, join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God ⁹ who has saved us and called us for a holy life – **not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace.**

This is God's Word!

Sung Response : Your Little Ones, Dear Lord, Are We (RED HYMNAL, 46)

This happy little melody blends voices of all ages to give thanks and sing praise. Happily, we approach the Savior, not with a warrior's bold might, but with a child's gentle thrill.



***Your little ones, dear Lord, are we
And come your lowly bed to see;
Enlighten ev'ry soul and mind
That we the way to you may find.***

***With songs we hasten you to greet
And humbly fall before your feet.
Oh, blessed hour, oh, sweetest night
That gave you birth, our souls' delight.***



*Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord,
And to us all your grace accord;
True faith and love to us impart
That we may hold you in our heart,*

*Until at last we, too, proclaim,
With all your saints, your glorious name;
In paradise our songs renew
And praise you as the angels do.*

A Sermon Founded on : Mark 10:13-16

The scene is powerful ... and tender; with it, Jesus imparts an important lesson: the eternal I AM came to earth to be the Savior of all – even of the little ones. They’re important, too!

To see the Foundation text of today’s sermon, please reconsider our Gospel reading from Mark chapter 10 on page 7 of this worship booklet.

CHERISH THE ETERNAL IMPORTANCE!

sermon notes :

Jesus’ eternal importance is emphasized in his “bigness.”

- Highlight specific examples which prove that that truth.
- Identify personal implications of that truth.
- Pray over “next generation” implications of that truth.
- Consider opportunities you have to make sure the next generation knows those truths. With whom can you share it today? How?

Sung Statement of Faith : Borning Cry (*MULTICOLORED HYMNAL, 34*)

This beautiful little melody celebrates with happy thanks the gracious and guiding heart of our heavenly Father. In love undeserved, in baptism, he patiently remains “our Father!”



***I was there to hear your borning cry;
I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.***

***I was there when you were but a child,
With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
To find where demons dwell.***

***When you heard the wonder of the Word,
I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord,
To whom you now belong.***

***If you find someone to share your time
And you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme
From dusk till rising sun.***



***In the middle ages of your life;
Not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
Complete what I've begun.***

***When the evening gently closes in
And you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
With just one more surprise.***

***I was there to hear your borning cry;
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
To see your life unfold.***

GOD ACCEPTS OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

The Offering (THANKS FOR USING THE AISLE BASKET FOR PHYSICAL OFFERINGS, & QR CODE FOR DIGITAL)

Concerning the offering, the Lord says "each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7); whether the Gospel moves your heart to support our ministry with an encouragement, a prayer, a help or a gift – thank you; please know we appreciate you for it!



GOD INVITES US

The Lord's Prayer and Prayer of the Church

With such purpose and meaning, Jesus taught us to approach heaven's Throne with the words "our Father" and to bring our cares to him confidently. In thanks for grace, we do!

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

A moment to offer today's prayer requests and our own, individual prayers

Lord Jesus, hear us for the sake of your name; answer us for the sake of your grace; strengthen and sustains us for the sake of your glory and praise.

Amen!

GOD ASSURES US

Concluding Benediction (with gospel-encouragement from Titus 3)

Where the LORD's name is, there his blessing also is. Refreshed by his goodness, gifts, and grace, our service concludes with his promise to bless and be with us (Numbers 6).

But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,

⁷ so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

⁸ This is a trustworthy saying (*Titus 3:4-8a*)!

Sisters and brothers, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord with gladness.

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor (†) and give you peace.

Amen!

Final Song : Go, my Children, with My Blessing (*RED HYMNAL, 332*)

The Savior-God reminds us of his promise-blessing: to be with us always, hear our every cry, attend to our every need. In short, he reminds us we – all. still! – are important to him.



Go, my children, with my blessing – never alone!

Waking, sleeping, I am with you – you are my own!

In my love's baptismal river,

I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing – You are my own!

Go, my children, sins forgiven – at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you – what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son's story;

Here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven – at peace and pure.



***Go, my children, fed and nourished – closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving – joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you;
Here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished – joyful and free.***

***I the Lord will bless and keep you – and give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you – and give you peace;
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, my children; I will keep you – and give you peace!***



Bay Pines' Ministry Announcements :

for our prayers (please remember the family of these dear friends, too):

- our ministry in church, school, and life as we go forth with the gospel!
- our nation & world, for healing in God's grace and confidence of God's glory
- our family and friends who battle everything from colds to COVID to cancers
- our nation, in the 20th anniversary remembrance of September 11th, 2001
- Leann, a friend of Debbie Vicker, as she [Leann] deals with cancer
- Rhonda Uchytel's dad, Rod Steward, as he deals with a cancer
- Kirk Kottmeyer, Jim Grebe's friend, as he wrestles against cancer
- John Mitton, as he recovers from yet another stint in the hospital
- Ken Balza, as he recovers from surgery
- Bay Pines' teachers, Judy Thrans, Sarah Sell, & Jeff Sell, as the Lord, in his own time, grants them continued healing, and recovered health

in our gratitude :

- each of you for being here to encourage with the gospel, and for going out to share the news of Jesus with others. **May Jesus smile on your mission work!**
- Sharon Mueller for edifying our worship with music
- Cherstin & Ed Peterson, for altar flowers honoring, Doris & Axel Landergren
- the Priebe, Cicco, Woodard & Dryden families for cleaning & lawn-care
- our tech crew for their efforts to make the service available online
- all who help with **Feeding God's People** (food is available in the altar kitchen & hallway west of the sanctuary; contact Eva Kiss for more info [808.457.9703])
- all who make use of the **SCRIP** program as a blessing for our ministry (for more info on **SCRIP**, or to purchase the gift cards, please speak with Sarah Sell, Jeanine Bittinger, and/or Mary Dryden after today's service).

on our calendars (please email additional dates to mary.dryden@baypineslutheran.org) :

**to stay most-current on ministry-happenings and to receive our weekly updates, please email news@baypineslutheran.com*

- **worship opportunities :**

- Saturdays at 6:00p
- Sundays at 9:30a
- choir : Wednesdays at 6:00p

- **spiritual growth opportunities :**

- *Seeing Jesus : a study on Revelation*
 - Sundays at 8:30a, Wednesdays at 7p, & Thursdays at 10a
- *Simple Stories, Stunning Truths : a Bible Class* : Sundays at 10:45a
 - a Catechism class geared for teens & open to all
- Women's Bible study (*Elijah*) : Mondays at 6:30p
(please speak with Pamela Van Auken for further details and more info)
- the current *Forward in Christ* magazines & *Meditations* devotion booklets are available on table to the left of our sanctuary's main doors

- **to-stay-mindful-of opportunities :**

- next council meeting : September 13
- *Skyway Ministries* bowling outing: September 19
(see Rachel Kulhanek or Dan Buetzow for more details)
- evangelism seminar : October 9 (9:30a-noon)
- next congregational meeting : October 17

